

Case 3378

***Phyllomorpha* Laporte, 1833 (Insecta, Heteroptera): proposed conservation of spelling and existing usage**

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Abstract. The purpose of this application, under Articles 33.3.1 and 70.2 of the Code, is to conserve the commonly used but incorrect spelling of the generic name *Phyllomorpha* Laporte, 1833 and the current usage of the name. *Phyllomorphus* was selected by the first reviser as the correct original spelling, but has been used only in the 19th century. The type species of *Phyllomorpha* is *Cimex paradoxus* Sparrman, 1777. The designation of *Cimex paradoxus* as the type species by Westwood (1840) has never been adopted, and *Cimex paradoxus* currently belongs to a different genus. In current usage *Coreus hystrix* Latreille, 1817, a junior subjective synonym of *Phyllomorpha laciniata* (Villers, 1789), has universally been accepted as the type species of *Phyllomorpha*. It is proposed that the spelling *Phyllomorpha* is conserved and *Coreus hystrix* Latreille, 1817 is designated as the type species of *Phyllomorpha*.

Keywords. Nomenclature; taxonomy; Insecta; Heteroptera; COREIDAE; *Phyllomorpha*; *Phyllomorpha laciniata*; *Coreus hystrix*.

1. Laporte (1833) described a new genus of COREIDAE named *Phyllomorphus* on p. 41 and *Phyllomorpha* on p. 47. The spelling *Phyllomorphus* was selected by the first reviser (Burmeister, 1835, p. 310), but was used by a few 19th century authors only. The spelling *Phyllomorpha* is in universal current usage, but as an incorrect original spelling under first reviser action it cannot be maintained under Article 33.3.1 of the Code and is proposed for conservation under the plenary power.

2. Laporte cited '*Syromastes histrix* Latr.' (i.e. *Coreus hystrix* Latreille, 1817 (p. 55), a junior synonym of *Cimex laciniatus* Villers, 1789 (p. 493)) as an example of the genus *Phyllomorpha* and stated in a note that this species is congeneric but not conspecific with *Cimex paradoxus* Sparrman, 1777. Hence, the genus *Phyllomorpha* was established with two originally included nominal species.

3. Amyot & Serville (1843, p. 325) described the genus *Pephricus* with two species included, *Cimex paradoxus* Sparrman, 1777 and *Phyllomorpha capicola* Westwood, 1841. Both are still included in this genus, and the first was designated as its type species by Dolling (2006, p. 98).

4. Starting with Amyot & Serville (1843, pp. 235–237), *Phyllomorpha* has always been used as the name of the genus including *Phyllomorpha laciniata* (senior synonym of *Coreus hystrix* Latreille, 1817); *Coreus hystrix* Latreille, 1817 was designated as the type species of *Phyllomorpha* by Reuter (1888, p. 411). Recently, W.R. Dolling (in litt.) has discovered that Westwood (1840, p. 484) validly designated *Cimex paradoxus* Sparrman, 1777 as the type species of the genus *Phyllomorpha*. This

designation was overlooked by all authors. If Westwood's designation is followed, the name *Phyllomorpha* would replace *Pephricus* and the genus currently named *Phyllomorpha* would take the name *Phyllophya* Stål, 1873, which is the next available name, a junior subjective synonym.

5. *Phyllomorpha* includes two species distributed in Southern Europe, North Africa and the western part of Asia to Pakistan. *Pephricus* includes about five species from tropical and southern Africa and Yemen. Both generic names have been used for more than 150 years in many publications (regional monographs, biological observations, faunal lists, catalogues) (Putshkov, 1962, pp. 84–86; Kerzhner & Jaczewski, 1964, p. 814; Kiritshenko, 1964, p. 113; Josifov, 1986, p. 87; Hoberlandt, 1989, p. 89; Faraci & Rizzotti Vlach, 1995, p. 33; Moulet, 1995, p. 110; Carapezza, 1997, p. 246; Reguera & Gomendio, 1999; Földessy, 2000; Kis, 2001, p. 23; Panizzi & Santos, 2001, p. 471; Tallamy, 2001, p. 145; Garcia-Gonzalez et al., 2003; Kaitala et al., 2003; Dolling, 2006, pp. 98–99). Owing to their bizarre appearance, species of these genera are often illustrated, including in the popular literature (e.g. Vászrhelyi & Csiby, 1989, p. 22; Wachmann, 1989, pp. 142–143).

6. The International Commission on Zoological Nomenclature is accordingly asked:

- (1) to use its plenary power:
 - (a) to set aside the first reviser action by Burmeister (1835) to select *Phyllo-morphus* Laporte, 1833 as the correct original spelling and to rule that *Phyllomorpha* Laporte, 1833 is the correct original spelling;
 - (b) to set aside all designations of type species for the nominal genus *Phyllomorpha* Laporte, 1833 prior to that by Reuter (1888) of *Coreus hystrix* Latreille, 1817;
- (2) to place on the Official List of Generic Names in Zoology the name *Phyllomorpha* Laporte, 1833 (gender: feminine), type species by subsequent designation by Reuter (1888) *Coreus hystrix* Latreille, 1817, as ruled in (1)(b) above;
- (3) to place on the Official List of Specific Names in Zoology the name *laciniatus* Villers, 1789, as published in the binomen *Cimex laciniatus* (senior subjective synonym of *Coreus hystrix* Latreille, 1817, the specific name of the type species of the genus *Phyllomorpha* Laporte, 1833);
- (4) to place on the Official Index of Rejected and Invalid Generic Names in Zoology the name *Phyllo-morphus* Laporte, 1833 (set aside as the correct original spelling in (1)(a) above).

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